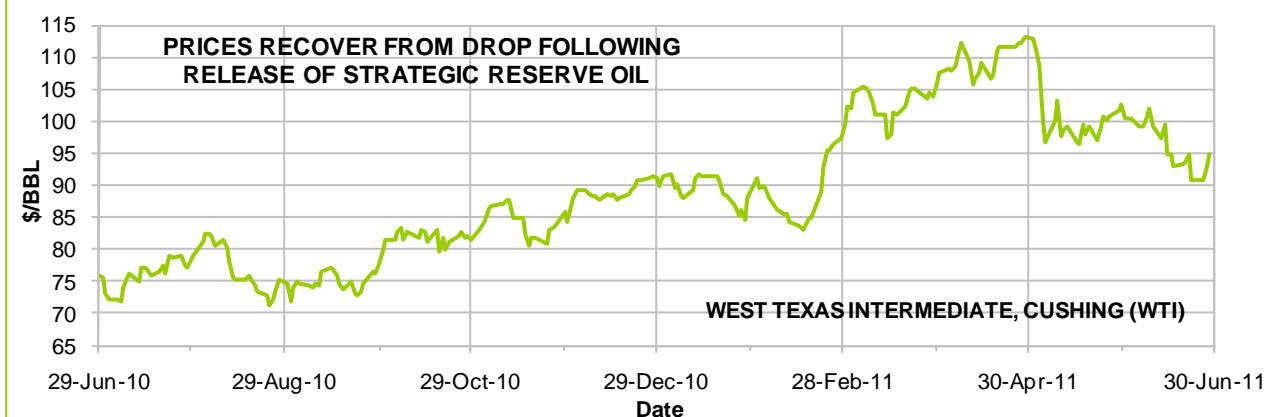


## Crude Oil



Although crude inputs to refineries fell this past week, larger declines in production and imports led to a 4.4 million barrel decline in inventories. This was two and one-half the expected decline of 1.7 million barrels and three times the size of both the 5-year average decline and the decline for this same week last year. Inventories have worsened to 1.1% below last year and to only 5.1% above the 5-year average.

After falling by more than \$4/bbl with the release of oil from various countries' strategic oil reserves, prices rebounded with the possible resolution of the Greek debt problem, a weaker dollar, a storm threat in the Caribbean, and threats of OPEC production cuts. Futures prices settled at \$97.22, down \$0.30 for the week and \$18.78 (23.9%) higher than a year ago. Spot prices were at \$94.83, down \$0.08 for the week but \$18.92 (24.9%) higher than last year. Prices are about \$50 (34%) below their 2008 peaks.

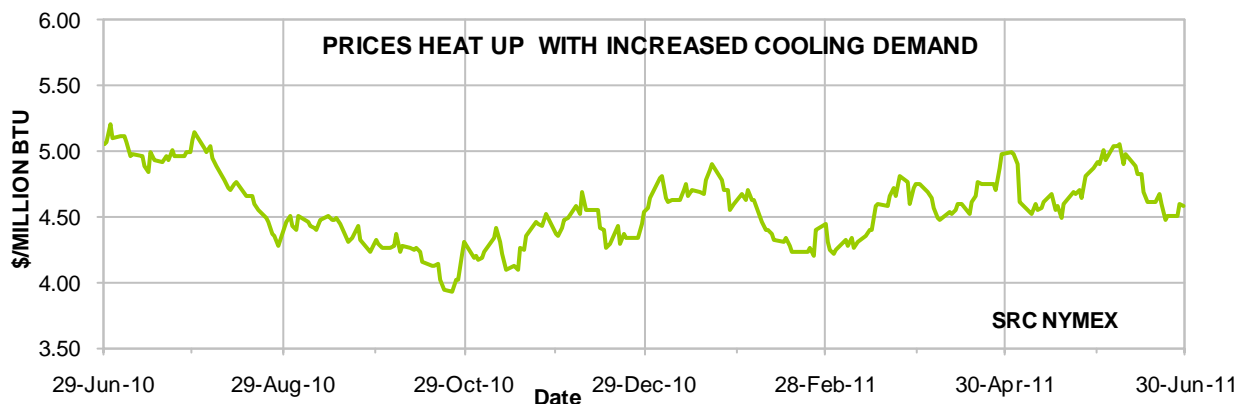


## Natural Gas



Natural gas inventories grew by 78 BCF this past week. This was approximately equal to both the expected gain of 79 BCF as well as the 5-year average gain of 77 BCF. The gain was 24% higher than last year's gain of 63 BCF. As a result, this week's 2,432 BCF inventory level improved to 9.1% below last year's level and to 2.5% below the 5-year average. Cumulative injections this year are running 16.6% below last year and 8.8% below the 5-year average.

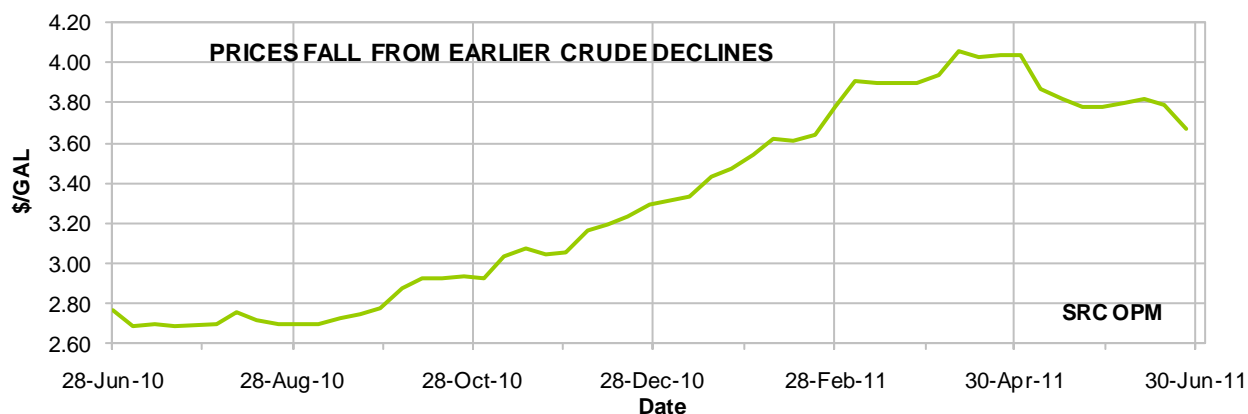
Prices had fallen earlier from higher than normal storage injections last week before reversing direction as warmer weather increased cooling demands. Futures prices fell by 1.5 cents, settling at \$4.584 per million BTU. This was 46.7 cents (9.2%) lower than a year ago and 65.6% below their 2008 peak. Spot prices fell by 2 cents. They settled at \$4.39 per million BTU, 29 cents (6.2%) lower than a year ago. Spot prices are 67.0% below their 2008 peak. According to census data, 31% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with natural gas.





Inventories rose by only 0.26 million barrels this past week as demand rose for the first time in 5 weeks and imports fell. The weekly increase was more than 80% less than the 5-year average, the expected gain, and last year's gain. Inventories now trail last year by 10.5%. At 4.5% above the five-year average, they are still at their third highest level ever for this date.

Futures prices fell 3.1 cents this week and settled at \$2.991/gal, \$0.852 (39.8%) above last year but \$1.204 (28.7%) below 2008's peak. Spot prices fell by 2.0 cents. They settled at \$2.904/gal, \$0.910 (45.7%) above last year but \$1.176 (28.8%) below their 2008 peak. Retail prices fell by 11.8 cents this week as they reacted to the large fall in crude prices. Prices are now at \$3.669/gal, \$0.905 (32.7%) above a year ago. Prices are \$1.097 (23.0%) below their 2008 peak. The highest price in this week's survey was \$4.399 and the lowest was \$3.049. According to census data, 49.1% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with oil.



## Connecticut Regional Heating Oil Prices

	FAIRFIELD			HARTFORD			NEW LONDON		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
28-Jun-10	2.912	3.399	2.540	2.738	3.199	2.299	2.726	2.880	2.560
13-Jun-11	3.916	4.449	3.540	3.818	4.399	3.399	3.700	3.870	3.460
20-Jun-11	3.870	4.449	3.590	3.818	4.299	3.299	3.663	3.760	3.370
27-Jun-11	3.766	4.399	3.440	3.701	3.999	3.049	3.548	3.750	3.200
	LITCHFIELD			MIDDLESEX			TOLLAND-WINDHAM		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
28-Jun-10	2.735	2.799	2.689	2.812	2.899	2.690	2.699	2.849	2.449
13-Jun-11	3.813	3.899	3.599	3.929	4.049	3.799	3.768	3.899	3.589
20-Jun-11	3.785	3.899	3.599	3.864	3.999	3.690	3.739	3.899	3.539
27-Jun-11	3.667	3.899	3.499	3.792	3.999	3.490	3.598	3.790	3.389
	NEW HAVEN								
	AVG	HIGH	LOW						
28-Jun-10	2.699	2.959	2.399						
13-Jun-11	3.762	4.049	3.459						
20-Jun-11	3.721	3.999	3.359						
27-Jun-11	3.578	3.899	3.259						

OPM conducts a weekly survey of retail heating oil prices in Connecticut. These figures reference the most recent results of that survey for the reporting week beginning June 27, 2011. Figures reflect per gallon prices without discount.

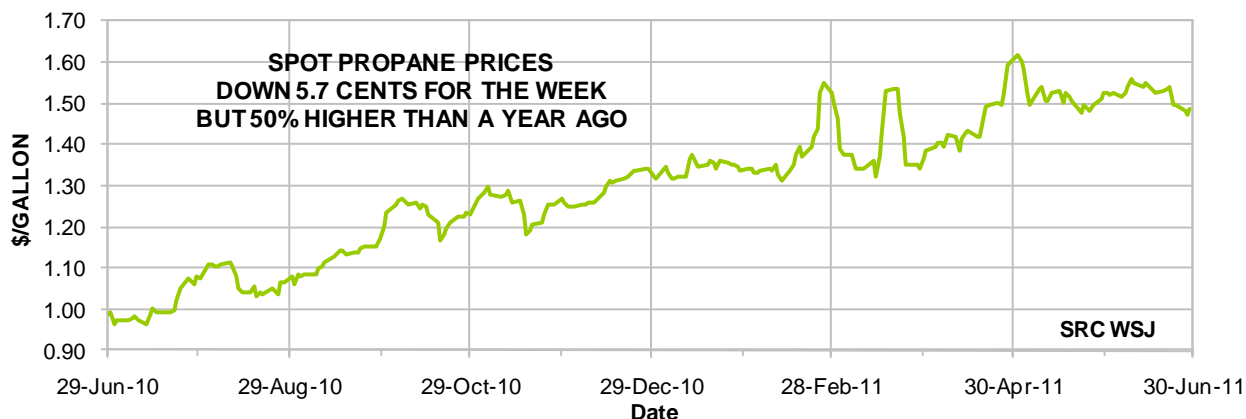
For more information, see [www.ct.gov/OPM](http://www.ct.gov/OPM) > Energy Management > Energy Price and Supply Information

# Propane



A slight increase in production and a decline in demand offset a drop in imports as inventories rose by 1.7 million barrels this week. Although this week's inventory growth was 11% greater than last year's gain of 1.5 million, it lagged the 5-year average weekly gain of 2.1 million barrels by 20%. As a result, inventories have improved to 17.7% less than last year but worsened to 17.5% below the 5-year average.

Spot propane prices fell by 5.7 cents/gal this past week after rising by 5.5 cents over the previous 4 weeks. At \$1.485 per gallon, spot prices are 49.8 cents (50.4%) higher than a year ago but they are 25% lower than their peak 2008 price. The usual reporting of Connecticut retail propane heating prices has been discontinued for the season but will resume in October. According to census data, propane is used to heat 2.7% of homes in Connecticut.



# Gasoline



After falling by 0.5 million barrels last week, inventories fell another 1.4 million barrels this week as declines in production and imports offset a further falloff in demand. A weekly gain of 0.7 million had been expected and the 5-year average is a gain of 0.68 million. Although inventories levels are 2.2% below last year, they are 1.1% above the 5-year average.

Futures prices fell by 0.4 cents this past week. They are at \$2.843/gal, \$0.807 (39.6%) higher than last year but \$0.768 (21.3%) below their 2008 peak. Spot prices rose by 3.7 cents/gal to \$2.850/gal. They are \$0.873 (44.2%) higher than a year ago. Spot prices are 16.5% (\$0.562) below their 2008 peak. Connecticut retail prices fell another 4.8 cents this week and by 33.8 cents over the past 7 weeks. At \$3.930, prices are \$1.035 (35.8%) higher than a year ago. Retail prices are 46.0 cents (10.5%) below their 2008 all time high of \$4.390.

